



Lincoln Almond
Governor

Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Employment Labor Market Information Bulletin



Dr. Lee H. Arnold
Director

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Rhode Island Unemployment Rate Dips to 4.1 Percent in June

The Unemployment Rate

Reversing a two-month trend, Rhode Island's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined from May to June. The unemployment rate fell by 0.6 of a percentage point in June to 4.1 percent, its lowest level since October 2000. In contrast, the unemployment rate for the nation crept up 0.1 of a percentage point to 5.9 percent in June. Rhode Island's unemployment rate remained well below the national average for the eleventh straight month. The number of unemployed Rhode Island residents declined by 3,000 over the month to 20,700. A year ago June, the unemployment rate was 4.9 percent, while the unemployment level stood at 24,900.

"The current unemployment rate, which is down from 4.7 percent in May and well below the 4.9 percent recorded in June of last year, certainly reflects a measure of improvement in Rhode Island labor market conditions," said DLT Director Dr. Lee H. Arnold. "Although we may see some higher unemployment rates before we see sustained lower rates, we view this month's labor report as fresh evidence that Rhode Island's economy is on the road to recovery."

Rhode Island Job Highlights (Over the Year, Unadjusted Figures)

Rhode Island businesses reported 487,500 jobs in June 2002, an increase of 2,600 (0.5%) over last year's total of 484,900. Employment growth in Services (+4,000), Finance, Insurance & Real Estate (+1,100), Trade (+400) and Government (+400) contributed to this increase and offset declines in Manufacturing (-2,300), Contract Construction (-700), and Transportation & Public Utilities (-300). (Continued on Page 4)

Introducing Rhode Island's NEW Electronic LMI Newsletter, LMI Stat Track

Starting in August, the RIDLT Labor Market Information unit will begin periodically e-mailing its customers on newly available labor market data, announcements regarding LMI publications and updates to the LMI web site. The newsletter will provide hypertext links directing you to our on-line data and services right from your Inbox, allowing timely access to the most current labor market information available!

If you would like to begin receiving LMI Stat Track, please send your request, including your name and any e-mail addresses to be added, to Nick Ucci at nucci@dlt.state.ri.us.

We value your participation and any information provided to us will remain confidential.

REMINDER TO EMPLOYERS: MANDATORY LAW! Reporting to the RI State Directory of New Hires

The Rhode Island New Hire Law went into effect on October 1, 1997. If your company does business in Rhode Island, when you hire or rehire employees, you must report information about those employees and your business to the RI State Directory of New Hires within 14 days of hire. The main purpose of this law, which is mandated by the Federal Government and administered through the Social Security Act (42 USC Section 654), is to enhance the enforcement of child support obligations.

All newly-hired employees must be reported to the designated New Hire Reporting Department whether or not the employer believes that a given employee owes child support. The supplied information is compared against the names of child support obligors and recipients of public benefits to improve child support collections and detect fraud and abuse in public benefits programs. (Continued on page 4)

Rhode Island Labor Force Statistics*

(in thousands)

	Seasonally Adjusted			Unadjusted		
	Jun 02	May 02	Jun 01	Jun 02	May 02	Jun 01
Civilian Labor Force	505.1	506.1	505.5	507.5	499.9	508.0
Resident Employment	484.4	482.4	480.5	487.3	478.1	483.6
Unemployment	20.7	23.7	24.9	20.2	21.8	24.4
Unemployment Rate	4.1%	4.7%	4.9%	4.0%	4.4%	4.8%

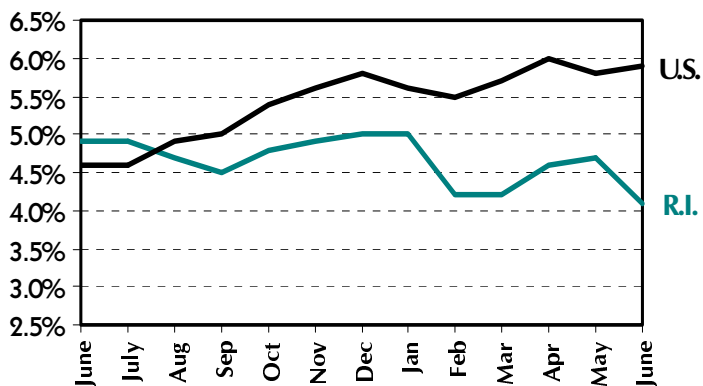
United States Labor Force Statistics

(in thousands)

	Seasonally Adjusted			Unadjusted		
	Jun 02	May 02	Jun 01	Jun 02	May 02	Jun 01
Civilian Labor Force	142,476	142,769	141,468	143,669	142,253	142,684
Resident Employment	134,053	134,417	135,003	134,992	134,365	135,923
Unemployment	8,424	8,351	6,465	8,677	7,888	6,762
Unemployment Rate	5.9%	5.8%	4.6%	6.0%	5.5%	4.7%

Rhode Island & United States Unemployment Rates

Seasonally Adjusted 2001 - 2002



City & Town Unadjusted Unemployment Rates

	Jun 02	Jun 01
Barrington	2.6	2.8
Bristol	3.1	3.0
Burrillville	4.2	4.3
Central Falls	7.3	9.5
Charlestown	4.6	4.6
Coventry	4.2	4.0
Cranston	3.9	4.7
Cumberland	3.7	4.9
East Greenwich	3.9	4.4
East Providence	4.2	4.8
Exeter	3.7	3.6
Foster	3.2	4.7
Glocester	2.8	3.2
Hopkinton	1.7	3.0
Jamestown	2.4	2.9
Johnston	4.3	4.4
Lincoln	3.9	4.3
Little Compton	2.4	2.2
Middletown	3.2	3.6
Narragansett	1.8	2.3
New Shoreham	1.5	4.4
Newport	2.6	3.2
North Kingstown	3.3	3.4
North Providence	3.9	4.4
North Smithfield	2.6	3.4
Pawtucket	5.1	6.8
Portsmouth	3.0	2.9
Providence	5.6	7.4
Richmond	2.4	1.5
Scituate	3.6	4.2
Smithfield	3.6	4.3
South Kingstown	2.9	2.9
Tiverton	3.8	3.7
Warren	3.3	3.9
Warwick	3.5	4.0
West Greenwich	4.2	3.7
West Warwick	4.1	5.1
Westerly	2.0	2.9
Woonsocket	5.0	6.5
State of R.I.	4.0	4.8

Unemployment Insurance Claims Activity

	Jun 2002	May 2002	Jun 2001	% Change		Year to Date		
				May 02	Jun 01	2002	2001	% Change
Initial Claims	7,324	5,642	7,945	29.8%	-7.8%	44,614	49,735	-10.3%
Number of Payments	46,832	51,165	43,451	-8.5%	7.8%	386,218	324,341	19.1%
Amount of Payments (gross millions)	\$13.8	\$15.4	\$12.1	-10.6%	14.0%	\$115.3	\$90.9	26.9%
Exhaustions (Final Payments)	1,375	1,658	896	-17.1%	53.5%	9,380	6,379	47.0%

*Current month figures are preliminary; prior month and year are revised. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Labor Force statistics are compiled by Labor Market Information, in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Dept. of Labor.

For additional information, comments or suggestions, contact

Labor Market Information, Phone (401)462-8740, Fax: (401)462-8766, www.dlt.state.ri.us/lmi

Now available on the LMI
Web Site:

2001 Statistical & Fiscal Digest

This annual publication contains financial summaries of DLT programs such as Unemployment and Temporary Disability Insurance, Workers' Compensation and general Labor Market Information.

Trends in the RI Labor Market

Trends in the Rhode Island Labor Market is an annual report compiled by the LMI Unit. It contains historical, current and outlook information that is a valuable resource to those looking for changes in the Rhode Island labor market.

Both the Statistical & Fiscal Digest and Trends in the Rhode Island Labor Market are available in *.pdf format on the LMI web site at

www.dlt.state.ri.us/lmi/lmiprod.html

Total Establishment Employment in Rhode Island**

	Employment (in thousands)			Net Change From	
	Jun 02	May 02	Jun 01	May 02	Jun 01
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	487.5	486.3	484.9	1200	2600
GOODS PRODUCING	87.1	86.5	90.1	600	-3000
Contract Construction	19.0	18.5	19.7	500	-700
Manufacturing	68.1	68.0	70.4	100	-2300
SERVICE PRODUCING	400.4	399.8	394.8	600	5600
Trans. & Public Utilities	17.2	16.7★	17.5	500	-300
Trade (Wholesale & Retail)	110.8	108.7	110.4	2100	400
Wholesale	18.5	18.6	18.9	-100	-400
Durables♦	11.4	11.5	11.7	-100	-300
Nondurables♦	7.2	7.1	7.2	100	-----
Retail	92.3	90.1	91.5	2200	800
Building & Garden Supplies♦	2.8	2.7	2.5	100	300
General Merchandise	6.4	6.3	6.7	100	-300
Food Stores♦	15.4	15.3	15.6	100	-200
Automotive Dealers	7.9	7.9	7.9	-----	-----
Apparel & Accessory Stores	4.8	4.5	4.7	300	100
Furn., Home Furn., & Equipt.♦	3.1	3.0	2.7	100	400
Eating and Drinking Places	35.4	34.2	35.1	1200	300
Miscellaneous Retail	16.4	16.1	16.3	300	100
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	33.7	33.5	32.6	200	1100
Depository Institutions	9.9	9.7	9.3	200	600
Services	173.6	174.7	169.6	-1100	4000
Hotels & Other Lodging♦	5.3	5.0	4.9	300	400
Business Services	25.5	25.2	27.3	300	-1800
Auto & Misc. Repair♦	5.8	5.7	5.7	100	100
Amusement & Recreation	7.5	6.7	7.2	800	300
Health Services	53.7	53.6	52.4	100	1300
Educational Services	15.7	19.7	15.9	-4000	-200
Social Services	17.0	16.8	16.3	200	700
Government	65.1	66.2	64.7	-1100	400
Federal	10.2	10.2	10.4	-----	-200
State	18.4	18.6	18.4	-200	-----
Local	36.5	37.4	35.9	-900	600
Education♦	23.7	24.9	23.2	-1200	500
Non Education♦	12.8	12.5	12.7	300	100

★ Labor Dispute ♦ Publication of these industries is not approved by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

Establishment Employment, Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing Industries in Rhode Island

	EMPLOYMENT (in thousands)						PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES					
				Net Change			Weekly Hours			Hourly Earnings		
	Jun 02	May 02	Jun 01	May 02	Jun 01		Jun 02	May 02	Jun 01	Jun 02	May 02	Jun 01
MANUFACTURING	68.1	68.0	70.4	100	-2300		40.3	40.2	40.2	12.32	12.28	12.19
DURABLE MFG.	44.3	44.5	46.5	-200	-2200		40.2	40.2	40.0	12.12	12.06	12.00
Primary Metals	3.1	3.1	3.6	-----	-500		40.8	39.6	42.7	12.95	12.95	12.88
Fabricated Metals	7.8	7.9	8.0	-100	-200		38.6	39.1	38.6	11.77	11.67	11.32
Nonelectrical Machinery	3.5	3.6	4.1	-100	-600		41.7	40.6	39.3	13.71	13.70	13.61
Electrical Machinery	5.1	5.0	5.1	100	-----		39.7	40.4	40.4	11.60	11.51	11.67
Trans. Equipment	4.0	4.0	3.7	-----	300		41.9	41.0	40.3	14.46	14.44	14.42
Instruments	5.2	5.2	5.3	-----	-100		41.4	41.1	39.1	12.92	12.80	12.78
Miscellaneous Mfg.	12.1	12.2	12.9	-100	-800		39.9	40.4	39.8	10.72	10.73	10.71
Jewelry, Incl. Costume	9.1	9.1	9.8	-----	-700		39.6	40.4	39.7	10.48	10.50	10.52
All Other Durables	3.5	3.5	3.8	-----	-300		41.3	40.1	41.5	12.43	12.42	12.31
NONDURABLE MFG.	23.8	23.5	23.9	300	-100		40.3	40.1	40.6	12.68	12.70	12.53
Textiles	5.4	5.3	5.6	100	-200		40.6	40.5	41.9	10.95	10.87	10.91
Printing-Publishing	5.4	5.4	5.2	-----	200		39.7	39.2	39.4	16.63	16.63	16.63
Rubber & Plastic Products	4.4	4.4	4.6	-----	-200		38.7	38.9	39.4	13.28	13.25	13.18
All Other Nondurables	8.6	8.4	8.5	200	100		41.2	41.0	40.9	11.74	11.74	11.71

**Current month figures are PRELIMINARY. Prior month & year are REVISED. Totals may not add due to rounding.
Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic & Armed Services personnel are excluded from Establishment Employment figures.

Rhode Island Unemployment Rate Dips to 4.1 Percent in June

(Continued from Page 1)

Only two components of the Services sector recorded job losses over the year – Business Services (-1,800) and Educational Services (-200). These employment declines were offset by gains in Health Services (+1,300), Social Services (+700), Hotels/Lodging (+400) and Other Services (+3,300), which includes Engineering Services, Accounting Services, Membership Organizations, Landscape Services and unclassified employers.

Gains in the Retail Trade (+800) sector were somewhat stifled by over-the-year job losses in the Wholesale (-400) division. Home Furnishings (+400), Building and Garden Supplies (+300) and Eating and Drinking Places (+300) reported job gains, offsetting losses in the General Merchandise (-300) and Food Stores (-200) categories. Manufacturing losses were spurred by declines in all but three of its components – Transportation Equipment (+300), Printing/Publishing (+200) and Other Non-durables (+100). Job losses in Jewelry/Silverware (-700), Non-electrical Machinery (-600), Primary Metals (-500) and Textiles (-200) contributed to the decline.

Rhode Island Job Highlights (Over the Month, Unadjusted Figures)

The number of jobs in Rhode Island rose by 1,200 from May to June. Seasonal growth in Retail Trade and Contract Construction employment offset education-related losses in the Services and Government sectors.

Trade – Nearly all Retail Trade (+2,200) categories (except Automotive Dealerships, which remained stable) reported employment gains over the month. Seasonal increases in Eating and Drinking Places (+1,200), coupled with smaller gains in Apparel and Accessory Stores (+300) and Miscellaneous Retail (+300), contributed to the employment gains. Wholesale Trade lost 100 jobs from May to June.

Contract Construction – Bolstered by the warmer weather, Contract Construction posted a seasonal gain of 500 jobs over the month.

Manufacturing – Manufacturing posted a net gain of 100 jobs in June due to modest employment increases in Electrical Machinery, Textiles and Other Non-durable Manufacturing, which slightly offset declines in Fabricated Metals, Non-electrical Machinery and Miscellaneous Manufacturing.

Government – A 1,100 job decline in the public sector can be attributed to summer staff reductions at public schools, reflected in job losses at the Local (-900) level. State Government (-200) also saw moderate job losses, while Federal employment remained unchanged from May.

Services – Services employment declined by 1,100 over the month as education-related job losses (-4,000) at private schools and colleges overshadowed employment gains reported in Other Services (+1,000), Amusement/Recreation (+800), Hotels/Lodging (+300) and Business Services (+300).

Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers

	Jun 02	May 02	Jun 01	% Change Prev. Year
All Items	179.9	179.8	178.0	1.1%

Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

REMINDER TO EMPLOYERS: MANDATORY LAW

(Continued from page 1)

WHO MUST REPORT?

An employer doing business in the State of RI who hires or rehires an employee.

HOW OFTEN MUST YOU REPORT?

You must report via copy of W-4's within 14 days after the date of hire or rehire. If reporting electronically or magnetically, you must report by two monthly transmissions (if necessary) not less than 12 nor more than 16 days apart.

WHAT MUST YOU REPORT?

- *Employer name *Employee address
- *Employer address *Employee SSN
- *Employer FEIN *Availability of health insurance
- *Employee name *Date insurance available

HOW CAN YOU REPORT?

- *Internet - www.rinewhire.com
- *Fax - Copies of W-4's or equivalent to 1-888-430-6907
- *File Transfer Protocol (FTP) - 1-888-870-6461
- *Diskette or Magnetic Tape or Cartridge -
Download new hire information and mail
(File layout is on the web site.)
- *First Class Mail - Copies of W-4's or equivalent to:
RI State Directory of New Hires
PO Box 540220
Omaha, NE 68154-0220

For complete and detailed information, visit the new hire web site at www.rinewhire.com or call the RI Department of Labor & Training's Employer Service Unit at (401) 222-3606 ext. 107.